

TIER 2 INDICATOR TECHNICAL NOTE - FOOD SECURITY

AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT AGRICULTURE AND IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY

Australian support for climate resilient agriculture and improved food security via policy, technical advice and/or capacity building

- Number of countries supported with climate resilient agriculture and/or improved food security.
- Number of smallholder farmers supported to improve food security or climate resilient agriculture practices.

Last updated: May 2025

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Agricultural Development and Food Security Section (AFS)

DEFINITION

Climate Resilient Agriculture (also referred to as Climate Smart Agriculture) supports three interlinked outcomes:

- **Production** - sustainably increase and diversify agricultural production to support equitable increases in income for women and men farmers.
- **Adaptation** - increase resilience of agriculture and food systems to shocks, including conflict, climate change and environmental hazards.
- **Mitigation** - implement steps to measure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture and food systems.

Food Security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. This can be applied at a global, national, community, household or individual level. The six dimensions of food security are:

- **Availability** - is there sufficient safe and nutritious food available from local production, food stocks and trade?
- **Access** - do people have equal access to enough food through farming, fishing, gathering or purchasing?
- **Utilisation** - are people getting sufficient energy and nutrient intake through good food preparation and feeding practices, diet diversity and equitable intra-household distribution?
- **Agency** - are people able to make their own decisions about what foods they produce and eat, and can they engage meaningfully in processes that shape food system policies and governance?
- **Stability** - are the above dimensions of food security stable over the course of a year to shocks like conflict, extreme weather events or food price rises?
- **Sustainability** - do food system practices protect ecosystems over the long term, in their complex interaction with climate, economic and social systems required for providing food security and nutrition?

SCOPE

INCLUDES:

- › **Australian supported policy and technical advice, capacity building, training and extension advice and funding** for factors that strengthen climate resilient agriculture and improve food security with partner countries, organisations, communities, households and farmers, including:

- research and development of improved climate resilient agricultural inputs, plant and seed varieties, livestock breeds and feeds, fish species and feeds;
 - improved access to and more efficient use of water, crop, livestock and fisheries inputs;
 - conservation of crop and livestock genetic diversity;
 - improved data on food security vulnerability including food consumption information;
 - improved access to weather forecasting services, seasonal outlooks and climate information;
 - improved access to agricultural and fisheries markets domestically and internationally;
 - agricultural extension services and technical advice;
 - improved biosecurity systems and practices;
 - improved/more resilient farming and fisheries systems and practices, including soil fertility/land management/agroforestry, fisheries management and greater dietary diversity;
 - climate resilient irrigation and water capture and storage systems for agriculture;
 - riverine and maritime water quality in relation to food production;
 - improved post-harvest handling;
 - reduction of food waste; and
 - education on nutrition and food preparation.
- › **Policy advice** covers working with partner governments at national, subnational and local levels to improve systems and regulations for climate resilient agriculture and food security.
 - › **Technical advice** can cover multiple areas including agricultural research, agricultural production, biosecurity, nutrition sensitive agriculture, market systems development, climate resilient agriculture and food and nutrition monitoring capacity. It is not limited to the provision of technical specialists as advisers but also includes **capacity building** of counterparts in government, private sector or NGO organisations.
 - › **Training and extension** advice is provided to communities and farmers to help them better manage their crops, livestock and fisheries. This could be provided by government or private sector extension officers, NGOs and community organisations.

EXCLUDES:

- › Domestic and urban water supply/quality/availability (which is reported under the (Basic or Safely Managed Drinking Water Services indicator).
- › Food supplied as transfers under social protection programs (which is reported under the Social Protection Measures indicator) or emergency food/humanitarian disaster relief (which is reported under the Emergency Assistance indicator).

CALCULATION METHOD

Where an investment is funded by other parties in addition to Australia – such as partner governments, other donors, or multilateral organisations – the result should reflect a pro-rata share of Australia’s funding relative to the total funding. This should be based on Australia’s share of the total investment value in the reporting year – so please answer “NO” to the question *Are the results reported 100% attributable to Australia’s support?*

DATA SOURCE/S

Progress reports, quarterly or six monthly and annual reports from investment implementing partners which are used in IMRs. Other data sources can include mid-term reviews and final evaluations.

DISAGGREGATION

Where applicable, include sex and disability disaggregated data as follows:

- Number of women
- Number of men

- Number of people where sex is unknown
- Number of people with disability

WORKED EXAMPLES

Examples of assistance provided and results achieved may include short case studies, outcomes or key achievements from individual investments or projects achieved in the reporting period:

- › Australia partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Meteorological Service to develop an online information portal on climate services for agriculture to enable smallholder farmers to adapt their farming systems to future climatic conditions. Extension officers with the Ministry of Agriculture used this information to advise farmers in a drought prone province to transition to growing crops adapted to warmer and drier conditions and utilise mulching and shade trees.
- › In the last year, the Australian supported Farmer Organisation helped 17,230 women and 15,342 men smallholder farmers to improve their incomes by an average of 20 per cent through improved climate resilient vegetable production. Support included access to improved seed, micro-irrigation and training on planting techniques, post-harvest handling and marketing.
- › In the remote villages of the dry region of partner country X, farmers faced recurring losses in their rice production over the last three seasons due to blockages in their irrigation canal. The X non-government organisation, with support from the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP), re-excavated the canal, resulting in increased survival rates for the rice crops in the village. AHP partners provided 1,305 women in the village with livelihoods training, building their capacity for ensuring food security in their households. Following host community training on vegetable gardening, composting and savings clubs, AHP partner reported that the income of project participants increased by \$230 per month on average.
- › The Partner Country-Australia Partnership for Agriculture Resilience helped launch a new rice variety, building on eight years of Australian research and development support to the agricultural sector. The new variety is more drought and flood resilient and can be grown 2-3 times per year, raising annual production and incomes for farmers. The Partnership for Agriculture Resilience supported the increased uptake of the new variety by distributing rice seeds to provincial departments of agriculture, the rice grower's federation, agriculture cooperatives and farmers. It also published a video and manual for rice producers, which helped ensure broad public awareness and uptake of this new variety.